

NOVEMBER 2010 MEETING MINUTES

November 10, 2010 Location: Phalen Recreation Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lynda Anderson, Susan Bishop, Jonathan Carter, Erick Goodlow, Dave

Haley, Paul Middleton, Betsy Mowry, Andy Trcka, and Carrie Wasley

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Kathy Korum, Diana Berchem, Michelle Furrer, and Bryan Murphy

(Director Hahm was absent.)

GUESTS: Kevin Huepenbecker, Marsha Milgrom, John McCormick, Amy Shaw,

Betsy Wehrwein, Molly O'Rourke, Dennis O'Rourke, Pete Bolstad, Debbie Williams, Judy Massey, Bradley Prescott, Cheryl Kaup, Chris Harkness,

Sara Veblen-Mortenson

1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTION, ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chair Wasley.

- b. Commissioner Haley moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Carter 2nd the motion. The vote was 7 to 0 in favor. Two Commissioners arrived after this vote was taken.
- **c.** Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the October 2010 minutes. Commissioner Goodlow 2nd the motion. The vote was 7 to 0 in favor. Two Commissioners arrived after this vote was taken.

2. ACTION ITEMS

a. Resolution #10-16 Phalen - Keller Regional Park Master Plan

Action on Resolution #10-16 Phalen – Keller Regional Park Master Plan was laid over to the December 2010 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting but an overview was still presented by project manager, Bryan Murphy. Since this project is a joint St. Paul/Ramsey County project, Bryan presented on St. Paul's portion of the plan. His focus was on the trails, the existing facilities (Lakeside Center, boat house, beach house, etc. and what the thoughts are for updating them), traffic issues, water quality/fish habitat, and a Chinese pavilion/garden.

A question was asked if there will be any restroom facilities on the south or west side of the lake. Bryan indicated that he is looking at the possibility in the south parking lot area.

b. Resolution #10-18 Como Regional Park – Transportation Implementation Plan

Michelle Furrer, Como Park Zoo and Conservatory Campus Manager, summarized the Como Regional Park Transportation Implementation Plan to the Commission. In response to concerns from the community in opposition to the suggested parking area at Arlington/Hamline Avenues as indicated in the plan, Michelle stated that this item is no longer a desire to pursue and is recommending it be removed from the plan.

Kathy Korum mentioned there was a golf study done which could present an opportunity to explore the potential uses of the Como Golf Course as alternate parking.

Visitors were given an opportunity to speak. Comments included:

Dennis O'Rourke – encouraged permit parking in the Park be established by the May 2011 date as indicated in the plan.

John McCormick – offered comments in opposition to the Arlington/Hamline parking area and to keep the green space.

Pete Bolstad – endorsed the preservation of green space and permit parking.

Betsy Wehrwein – endorsed permit parking, shuttle service and to look at possible partnerships with nearby businesses like Bandana Square for more parking options.

Sally Worku – encouraged looking at possible grants for parking issues, shuttle leases, etc.

It was motioned by Commissioner Carter and 2nd by Commissioner Goodlow and Commissioner Anderson along with the agreement of the Parks and Recreation staff present at the meeting to rewrite Resolution #10-18 to include the following points:

- The proposed parking lot location at Arlington/Hamline is removed from consideration.
- The planning process to explore the potential uses of the existing Como Golf Course for alternate programming be initiated.
- The Parks and Recreation Commission acknowledge the position of District 10, supported by the testimony of numerous residents that the permit parking approved for implementation in May of 2011 move forward as previously approved by Council.

c. More visitor comments:

Members of the Duluth and Case Recreation Center Booster Club commented on the Parks and Recreation System Plan, going before the Commission in December, specifically relating to the proposed closing of the Duluth and Case Recreation Center. They are in opposition to this and request the Commission to allow for more time to give input and resolve issues. A letter of concern from the Payne Phalen District Five Planning Council laying out specific concerns was given to the Commission also requesting to delay action to further engage the community on outcomes pertaining to areas of concern in District Five.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Suggestions for Annual Meeting
Deputy Director Korum recommended Hazel Park Recreation Center as the location for the
annual meeting. The Commission was open to this suggestion or any other recommendations.

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Budget Update – No updates provided.

5. SUBCOMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

- a. Dog Park Commissioner Mowry indicated that talks continue on the proposed dog park under the High Bridge. The Downtown District Council is requesting to name the downtown dog park after a neighborhood "artist" resident who has deceased. Commissioner Mowry asked about the criteria for naming a park and feels this request may not fit.
- b. **Second Shift** Commissioner Mowry indicated the Second Shift focus is on Learning Campus planning, quality frameworks and Promise Neighborhoods.
- c. **Blooming St. Paul** Commissioner Middleton reported the November Blooming St. Paul meeting was canceled.
- d. Transportation Advisory Board No report from Commissioner Trcka.
- e. **Tree Advisory Panel** Commissioner Goodlow indicated the TAP are starting to look at different EAB treatments. Another current issue is the tree trimmer licensing for EAB matters such as insurance, legitimate certification, and enforcing penalties.
- f. Ramsey Conservation District Chair Wasley provided a brief report.
- g. **Ford Initiative** Chair Wasley indicated the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 15. She will report back at the next meeting.
- i. Other Reports No reports.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Middleton and 2^{nd} by everyone else. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.